

REMARKS

Claims 3-6, 8, 10, 11, 13-21 and 23-27 were pending in the application.

Claims 3-5, 8, 10, 11, 13-18 and 23-27 have been allowed.

Claims 19-21 have been rejected.

Claims 19-21 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 3-6, 8, 10, 11, 13-18 and 23-27 are now pending in the application.

I. **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

The Applicant thanks the examiner for allowing Claims 3-5, 8, 10, 11, 13-18 and 23-27.

II. **REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,785,520 to *Sugar et al.* (hereinafter “Sugar”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,177,906 to *Petrus* (hereinafter “Petrus”). Claims 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugar and Petrus and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,011,798 to *McAlpine* (hereinafter “McAlpine”). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

To further prosecution, the Applicants have canceled Claims 19-21, without prejudice. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the § 103 rejections of Claims 19-21 be withdrawn.

III. **CONCLUSION**

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicants assert that the remaining Claims in the Application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an early allowance of such Claims.

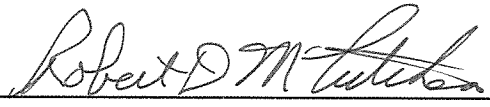
If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *rmccutcheon@munckcarter.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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